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REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 9 APRIL 1954

SUBJECT 1. Order of Battle
2. Military Manpower: Inductions and Reserve Training

NO. OF PAGES 10

DATE OF INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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ORDER OF BATTLE and MANPOWER

A. ORDER OF BATTLE

1.

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Czech army units, labor
battalions and academy:

<u>Date of Info</u>	<u>Unit Designation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
	U/1 Inf. Unit	ČESKE BUDEJOVICE (4859N- 1428E)	Troops wore red shoulderboards.
	U/1 Engr. Unit	ČESKE BUDEJOVICE	Troops wore black shoulderboards with crossed-ax in- signia.
	U/1 Tk. Unit	KOLIN (5002N- 1512E)	it had Cromwell and T-34 tanks.
	U/1 Inf. Unit	MILOVICE (5014N- 1454E)	
	U/1 Tk. Unit	MILOVICE	Troops wore black shoulderboards with tank insignia.
	U/1 Arty. Unit	PILSEN (4945N- 1322E)	Troops wore black shoulderboards with crossed-cannon insignia.
	U/1 Tk. Unit	PILSEN	Troops wore black shoulderboards with tank insignia.
	U/1 Tk. Unit	PARDUBICE (5002N- 1547E)	
	Mil. Med. Academy	HRADEC KRALOVE	

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Unit DesignationLocationRemarks

U/i Inf. Unit

PILSEN

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Troops wore red
shoulderboards.U/i Labor Bn.
(TP - Technicky Prapor)LINE
(4942N-
1316E)

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Members
of the unit were
engaged in the
construction of
four new build-
ings, installa-
tion of central
heating and
sewerage system
at the air base.U/i Auxiliary
Labor Bn.
(PTP - Pomocny
Technicky Prapor)

LINE

TP
personnel were
of draft age
while PTP person-
nel were past
draft age. TP
personnel re-
ceived military
training with
weapons after
working hours.

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[redacted] the vehicles of the Czechoslovak State Automobile Transportation Delivery (CSAD - Československá Státní Automobilní Doprava), which included public buses and freight trucks [redacted]

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4. Military Districts in Czechoslovakia

[redacted] at the LINE Air Base movie a short military news film showing participation of soldiers in ski meets. Participants from three military districts of Czechoslovakia were mentioned [redacted]

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5. Personal Identification Tag

[redacted] a personal identification tag (Osobní Znamka). Each individual [redacted] was assigned a personal tag, which was kept at the orderly room and was checked out whenever the individual went out on a pass, leave, or an official trip. The tag was made of aluminum and was about five cm. in diameter.

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On one side of the tag appeared [redacted] over two crossed swords. The swords were of the same design as those appearing on the buttons of uniforms worn by the Army and Air Force personnel. The other side of the tag had a Czech lion [redacted]

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[redacted] pressed out.

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[redacted] the personal tag always remained with the unit. Upon transfer of an individual to another unit the tag was reassigned within the unit.

Personal tag number was entered on ordinary passes, but not on leave or line-of-duty travel orders. Whenever an individual was requested to present his pass, leave, or travel orders for a check-up by those in authority, he had to present also the personal identification tag.

No such personal tag was issued during basic training.

The personal identification-tag [redacted] in the Military Booklet (Vojenská Knižka), in pencil, on the first page.

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All pieces of laundry were ordered to be marked

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(stitched) with the owner's personal identification [redacted]

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Whenever the unit fell out for "Attack Alarm" ("Bojovy Poplach") [redacted] men checked out the prescribed rounds of ammunition by giving their personal identification [redacted] the supply sergeant, which he entered on a roster.

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B. MANPOWER

1. [redacted] induction

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[redacted] via registered mail a notice called "Preliminary Registration of Recruits" (Predbežny Soupis Brancu), from OVV, NOVY BYDZOV, where [redacted] to report [redacted] for registration and pre-induction physical examination. This processing was conducted in a "Sokol" gym. ("Sokol" was a national athletic club, with membership in every large town and city). The physical examination was conducted by about four army medical officers, [redacted]

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Eyes, nose, ears, throat, and teeth were examined, and weight and height were recorded. In the gym there were also several officers, representing various arms of service of the armed forces. These officers spoke to men undergoing registration and the physical examination, and each officer urged those present to declare their desire to be assigned to the branch which he represented. On the occasion of this first physical exam, potential recruits received an opportunity to express their preference of a branch of service. This was noted on their registration papers, but no promises were made in this connection. [redacted]

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In addition to the officers, there were two civilians who questioned the individual registrants on political matters. [redacted] one of these civilians was a chairman of the district Czechoslovak Youth Organization (CSM - Ceskoslovensky Svaz Mladeze), and the other an official of the Communist Party. [redacted]

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b. Sometime in Sep. '52, the Union for Cooperation with the Army (SVAZARM - Svaz pro Spolupraci s Armadou) sent out postal-card notices to individuals and also made announcements via loudspeakers that all men scheduled for military service in Nov. '52 should complete firing exercises conducted by SVAZARM (see below).

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Manual of arms

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was stressed at these drills.

The SVAZARM range firing exercises were conducted by three infantry lieutenants who were assisted by about ten EM (infantry corporals and privates first class). One of the corporals distributed the ammunition. The provisional firing range (an old gravel pit) was located on the outskirts of NOVY BYDZOV (5015N-1530E).

The firing was divided into four phases. The first two phases were on Saturday morning; the remainder on a Sunday morning two weeks later. in the past all firing was done on Sundays, but only a few men showed up. Later, part of the firing was done on Saturdays. Men were excused from factories and did not forfeit their regular pay.

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Prior to range firing, brief instruction was given on aiming and types of firing positions.

firing phases:

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(1) First Phase

<u>Range</u>	<u>No of rounds</u>	<u>Type of target</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
25 m.	10	Bull's-eye, 25 x 25 cm.	Prone	An air rifle [redacted] was used. Four air rifles were available.

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(2) Second Phase

<u>Range</u>	<u>No of rounds</u>	<u>Type of target</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
25 m.	5	Head silhouette, 25 x 25 cm.	Prone	Rifles of Czech make, using rounds about 6 mm. in diameter. Four rifles were available.

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(3) Third Phase

<u>Range</u>	<u>No of rounds</u>	<u>Type of target</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
200 m,	5	Bull's-eye, 1 x 1 m,	Prone	Regular Army rifles be- lieved to have been 7.62-mm, Czech make. Five rifles were avail- able.

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(4) Fourth Phase

<u>Range</u>	<u>No of rounds</u>	<u>Type of target</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
200 m,	5	Silhouette from waist up; 1 x 1 m,	Prone	Army rifles. Only three targets and rifles were utilized for each order.

Results of firing were recorded by army personnel. At the Saturday firing, about 80 men participated, and on Sunday morning about 100 men. [redacted] they were all from the NOVY BYDZOV region.

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c. [redacted] a second notice from OVY, NOVY BYDZOV, by registered mail, [redacted] directed [redacted] to report for the second time to the Sokol gym in NOVY BYDZOV. At this time, no physical exams were conducted. One army medical officer was present who asked those reporting how they felt and whether there were any changes in their physical condition since their first examination. Upon the completion of this re-check, the "Preliminary Registration of Recruits" document was stamped to the effect that the individual concerned reappeared before a medical officer for the second time and the date was entered.

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d. The final notice from the draft board, called Svolavaci Listek (Convocation Note), was received [redacted] again via registered mail [redacted] directed [redacted] to report to NOVY BYDZOV Sokol gym [redacted]

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At NOVY BYDZOV Sokol gym approximately 250 recruits reported. [redacted] they were either from the NOVY BYDZOV or HORICE (5022N-1538E) districts. At the gym three Army officers took charge of the assembled group. Here they were broken down into groups, by means of numbers which appeared on their Svolavaci Listek. A regular civilian train transported the entire group of recruits to the HRADEC KRALOVE (5013N-1515E) railroad station. At this station recruits boarded a special troop train in small groups.

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[redacted] in 1952 there were spring and fall inductions, but in 1953 there were only fall inductions.

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2. Other Inductions

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b. The following is the breakdown on year classes

[redacted] about 15 men were in the class of 1931 and had not been drafted the previous year; three men were in the class of 1930 and had been previously deferred because they were completing higher education.

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From NOVY BYDZOV, about 15 men entered the Air Force. Four or five were from the year class of 1931. The rest were of year class 1932. All took basic training. Out of this group, four attended jet-engine mechanics school. Two went to the NCO Transportation School at CESKE BUDEJOVICE, two to an U/I Signal School in PARDUBICE, and one to a field airplane repair shop (POL - Polni Opravny Letadel) located in either PREROV (4927N-1727E) or PROSTEJOV (4928N-1707E).

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Out of the group of four men attending jet-engine mechanics school

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Two men were assigned directly from the school to ZATEC (5020N-1333E) and one to PRAGUE (5005N-1428E).

3. Cadre Procurement

No recruiting drives for enlistment into the Air Force as career NCOs and officers were conducted

individuals were approached and urged to remain in the service by officers assigned such duties.

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4. Reserve Training - Enlisted Men

During the summer of 1953, about nine Air-Force reservists (all airplane mechanics), one private, the rest corporals and sergeants, reported to LINE on active duty for three weeks and were assigned to the 16th Flight Regt. []

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[] they were in the service between 1945 and 1948. They reported to LINE in civilian clothing and were issued regular uniforms which they returned upon completion of their training. []

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[] they were about 30 years old.

During their first week the reservists underwent close-order drill and marksmanship training. During the second week they fired rifles [] they were 7.92-mm. caliber rifles of Czech make) and also 9-mm. Czech 23-25 model SMGs []

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The third week the reservists attended daily classes of about three hours' duration on jet engines and airplanes, and the rest of the day was spent in practical work with other mechanics. []

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[] some tents in the woods, not far from regular barracks in LINE. []

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[] reservists were being trained there. Each day [] a group of about 100 men marching from this tent area to mess halls. []

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5. Reserve Training - Officer

During the summer of 1953 about two senior lieutenants and three lieutenants (non-fliers) were at LINE airbase for three weeks' reserve training. []

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[] one of these reserve officers in charge of a [] transportation unit. []

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6. Other Reserve Training

[] men who never served in the armed forces (ages around 50) were to receive military training. []

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[] the figures 01, meant that the main office was at the factory carrying such a numerical designation. [] the plant of the KOLIN Mineral Oil Refinery (Kolinska Refinerie Mineralnich Oleju) in KOLIN (5002N-1512E) followed the same numerical designation system with the 01 designation for the plant where the main office was located. Higher numbers were used for branch plants. In KUNOVICE, near the Airplane Factory LET 01, was located another Airplane Factory, LET 03, where repairs on airplanes were made. This factory was subordinate to LET 01. []

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[redacted]
[redacted] at the UHERSKE HRADISTE garrison where men about 40 years of age, with service prior to World War II, were being trained. Drills were conducted every Thursday (or every other Thursday) [redacted] and those attending were excused from work without forfeiture of regular pay. The training consisted of close-order drill and SMG and rifle firing. This training was to continue until individuals completed the equivalent of three months of military service. [redacted]

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